

Lowermost Mississippi River

Management Program (LMRMP)



September 2021

The Lowermost Mississippi River Management Program (LMRMP) is a \$9.3 million effort that aims to move toward a more holistic approach for water and sediment management that supports the long-term sustainability of the Lowermost Mississippi River (LMR). Flood control, navigation, and coastal protection and restoration missions share a common, Navigation unifying motivation: economic security and sustainability. Each requires effective management of the same two primary parameters: water and sediment. The Water and Sediment LMRMP will strengthen partnerships, improve/develop science and technical Management tools, and help advance holistic water and sediment management. The goal of **Ecosystem** Restoration/ the LMRMP is to evaluate approaches to water and sediment management that yield practical benefits across all interests.

Coastal Protection and Restoration Authority (CPRA) objectives for managing the LMR include:

- Support the long-term sustainability of the coast, reducing land loss and collapse to the greatest degree possible
- Maintain and enhance channels that support use of the LMR for navigation
- Enhance the health of ecosystems associated with the LMR
- Mitigate threats to communities and infrastructure posed by river flooding
- Support holistic management of the LMR water and sediment resources to maximize benefits across all missions

The LMRMP is funded by the Resources and Ecosystems Sustainability, Tourist Opportunities, and Revived Economies of the Gulf Coast States Act (RESTORE Act), was launched in 2018 and will conclude in March 2023. It builds upon the Mississippi River Hydrodynamic and Delta Management Study (MRHDMS) previously conducted by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and CPRA. It serves to further develop the science needed to adequately inform decision makers on future LMR management. The program is organized into five Technical Elements: Subsidence, Storm Surge Modeling, Geomorphology, Dredge Material Management, and In-river Modeling. Specifically, tasks include data collection, synthesis of existing and newly collected data, numerical modeling, physical modeling, economic analysis, investigating existing 'status quo' conditions, identifying and evaluating high-level potential river management strategies including various future environmental scenarios, and coordination with other programs and initiatives, including the Mid Diversions Program.